

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for classifying information ~~on~~ transmitted over a communications network, the apparatus ~~comprises~~ comprising:

means for obtaining one or more transmission interaction characteristics in a session of transmission of information between communications terminals on a path of said communications network[[,]]; and

analysing means for predicting a classification of said information based on said one or more transmission interaction characteristics.

2-4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) An apparatus for classifying user profiles of users accessing information or content servers on a communications network, the apparatus ~~comprises~~ comprising:

means for obtaining one or more transmission interaction characteristics in a session of transmission of information between user communications terminals or information provided by any one of said content servers to a user communications terminal on a path of said communications network[[,]];

analysing means for predicting a classification of said information or said one content server based on said one or more transmission interaction characteristics[[,]]; and

means for classifying user profile in accordance with the predicted classification.

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for storing said one or more transmission interaction characteristics.

8. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said one or more transmission interaction characteristics include any one or more of: a network protocol[[,]]; date and time stamps[[,]]; a size of transmission activities (text and image) [[,]]; a content type of transmission activities [[,]]; and a pattern seen within the content of the transmission ~~and any other characteristic that can be employed for predicting classifications.~~

9. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said one or more transmission characteristics are obtained from network packets or fragments thereof.

10. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the analysing means includes profiling means for providing profiles of interactions based on said one or more transmission interaction characteristics.

11. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said profiling means is arranged to process said one or more transmission interaction characteristics for providing any one or more of: a frequency of interaction[[,]]; a duration of interaction[[,]]; a duration of absence of interaction[[,]]; patterns of transmission[[,]]; an average number of http links within an object of related sites[[,]]; an average number of like sites visited within a time frame[[,]]; and statistics from said other characteristics[[,]] for forming interaction profiles[[,]]; and the analysing means is adapted to use the profiles for predicting classifications.

12. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a knowledge base of predetermined profiles, and the analysing means is adapted to predict a classification based on a comparison between the profile of information to be classified and predetermined profiles.

13. (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising means for updating the knowledge base so that the classification prediction can be enhanced following classifications.

14. (new) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communications terminals including at least one content server and at least one user communications terminal, and the information is transmitted from the content server to the user

communications terminal, the content server being classified according to the classification predicted by the analysing means.